

## Mexico Sends Hundreds of Troops to US Border

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(copied as documentation on source and in case the link is removed)

Mexico has sent 600 troops to areas on the border with the U.S. following an uptick in violence, including an attack on a military installation and mass kidnappings.

The Mexican soldiers have been sent to the states of Tamaulipas and Nuevo Leon, which border Texas, according to Border Report, an outlet which reports on news about the Mexico-U.S. border.

An international security expert told the outlet that the region was formerly dominated by the Zetas drug cartel, which was known for its violent tactics.

While the Zetas' influence has waned due to leadership arrests, factions like the Northeast cartel and Zetas Old School remain active, and the border area is now contested by splinter and rival groups, the expert said.

[100 migrants found in house guarded by armed men](#) (this link is shown later in this document)

Mayoral candidate Noe Ramos Ferretiz, who was seeking reelection, was killed in Tamaulipas, in what local media reported was a knife attack.

A Mexican army installation was also attacked in the town of Miguel Aleman in Tamaulipas, and armed clashes between gangs were reported to have taken place in the area.

And in Nuevo Leon, dozens of people were reported to have been kidnapped, of which many have since been released or rescued.

Speaking about cartel violence in the region, Michael Ballard, vice president of intelligence for Virginia-based Global Guardian, told Border Report: "The Zetas are not a congruent entity anymore, but some offshoots are quite active. We are seeing major factions operating in cities along the border,

"It's a small slice of what they used to control, but those two states are still among the primary routes for heroin and cocaine to make its way to the border and the U.S. There's a reason why border cities and states remain hotly contested and you have a lot of violence."

Ballard said that while the levels of control and violence are lower than they were under the Zetas, "make no mistake, they are still dangerous, and we broadly recommend against travel to Veracruz or Tamaulipas unless it's absolutely necessary."

Mexican President Andrés Manuel López Obrador is known for his "[hugs, not bullets](#)" policy for dealing with cartels, which involves avoiding confrontations with them and instead seeking to address the socioeconomic roots of organized crime.

However, his apparent attempts to humanize the cartels have sometimes stoked controversy—last week he described the country's cartels and gangs as essentially "respectful people" who "respect the citizenry" and mostly kill one another.

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Experts and activists say that cartel violence has resulted in the deaths of thousands of Mexicans and forced many to flee their homes.

Obrador last month refused to fight drug cartels on U.S. orders as part of what he called a "[Mexico First](#)" [policy](#), explaining, "We are not going to act as police officers for any foreign government."

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### [100 Migrants Found in House Guarded by Armed Men - Newsweek](#)

## 100 Migrants Found in House Guarded by Armed Men

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Local police say they found 104 migrants inside an overcrowded stash house in Juárez, Mexico, where they were being guarded by armed men.

The migrants were almost all from Central America and **included four minors**, Chihuahua Secretary of State of Public Safety Gilberto Loya said, according to [Border Report](#), which reports on news about the Mexico-U.S. border. Four men were arrested and a 9mm gun with ammunition was retrieved from the scene.

"This occurred after a 911 call reporting armed people entering into a home," said Jorge Armendáriz, a spokesperson for Chihuahua's Secretary of State of Public Safety, according to KVIA News.

Migration is an ongoing source of tension in the U.S. and will likely be a contentious issue in the lead-up to the 2024 election.

Mexican authorities have been cracking down on the flow of migrants after illegal crossings into the U.S. **reached a record high of 250,000 in December**. U.S. Customs and Border Protection said that there were more than 9.8 million migrant encounters recorded between October 2019 and January 2024.

President [Joe Biden](#) and Mexican President Andrés Manuel López Obrador spoke in a phone call on Sunday about cooperating on migration policy and implementing measures to reduce the number of unauthorized border crossings.

The numbers of migrants heading to Juárez, which is on the border with Texas, have been rising. Hundreds of migrants headed toward the El Paso-Juarez border on top of freight trains last week, *Border Report* said.

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The numbers are increasing partly due to warming weather and because federal courts halted the enforcement of a Texas immigration law, SB4, that would allow police to arrest migrants illegally crossing the border from Mexico.

Armendáriz said that people heard calls for help coming from inside the house that alerted authorities. It's not clear who made the 911 call.

KVIA aired footage of what appeared to be dozens of migrants sitting on a sidewalk behind police tape. The migrants were handed over to Mexican immigration agents to be processed, according to the report.

The story comes a week after Mexican authorities stopped a semi-truck with a trailer filled with 131 Central and South American migrants that was heading to Juárez. The migrants were found in cramped conditions in the trailer with no air-conditioning, and agents said they were concerned about their health.